News release

Winter returns

22 January 2004

Freezing temperatures and snow look set to hit much of the country, the Met Office is advising, with the cold spell lasting for several days.

Next week many parts of the UK will see a major change to the weather as a strong northerly wind brings very low temperatures to all parts of the country.

Heavy snow is expected in some areas, particularly Scotland and eastern areas of England, bringing hazardous conditions and disruption to travel.

Daytime temperatures will struggle to get above freezing and, with a strong, biting wind, it will feel even colder.

The public are advised to keep in touch with local Met Office forecasts as more detail on the areas likely to be most affected will be provided over the next few days.

Notes:

- Lowest temperature ever recorded in the UK was -27.2 °C at Braemar (Aberdeenshire) on 10 January 1982 and -27.2 °C at Altnaharra (Highland) on 30 December 1995
- Lowest minimum in England was -26.1 °C at Newport (Shropshire) on 10 January 1982
- Lowest daytime maximum temperatures in England are -11.3 °C at Newport (Shropshire) on 11 January 1982 and -11.1 °C at Preston Montford (Shropshire) on 10 January 1982
- At Heathrow, the lowest daytime maximum temperature is -6.2 °C, recorded on 12 January 1987

the latest Met Office weather forecast for the UK

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